



# GATCOMB'S BANJO & GUITAR GAZETTE

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*For the Gazette.*

## NO ROYAL ROAD TO LEARNING.

Inscribed to all students in music.

To learning is no royal road—the way's the same to all,—  
A patient climb up wisdom's height, tho' trouble may  
appal;  
So, step by step, through day and year, the toiler passes  
on  
Until the goal is reached at last, and hard-earned victory  
won.

As ladders, reaching to the height, are mounted, round  
by round,  
Each one a little higher up, a small advancement found,  
So with the student who, to rise to Wisdom's plane,  
essays.  
His course is slow and toilsome, but the end his zeal  
repays.

And tho' the way be thickly lined with trials to withstand,  
All such may soon be set aside by earnest heart and hand.  
And he who labors patiently will, at each closing day  
Find he has gained another point still further on his way.

As traveller, while journeying, advances by degrees  
And step by step through hour by hour a sure progres-  
sion sees,  
So he, who wisdom's realm would seek, must labor  
patiently  
Until at last he hails the end in well-earned victory.  
F. N. S.

## WHEN I WAS YOUNG.

I overheard a portion of a conversation  
between two friends, middle-aged persons,  
who had met after a long separation and  
were recalling "the old times."

"Well!" said one, "we did have some  
high old times—that's a fact!"

"You are just right," responded the  
other, "and now-a-days they don't begin to  
have the fun we did."

"I don't know about that" said the first  
doubtfully, "I see a great many young  
folks and they seem to enjoy themselves."

"That may be," answered his friend,  
"but nothing in comparison to the fun we  
used to have. For instance; our old glee  
club. We could sing—"

"You bet we could."

"As well as many of the professional  
clubs of today and we did it for fun. What  
glorious times we had serenading your girl  
and my girl and some other girl, keeping it

up till two or three o'clock in the morning,  
just for fun."

"And we had it, too!"

"We did—lots of it. We made a living  
by work in other ways and sang for the  
pleasure it afforded ourselves and friends,  
and, in my way of thinking, that is the best  
use to put music to. When you come to  
hitch it to the plough for bread and butter,  
you destroy all the sentiment and reduce it  
to a mere practical means for making a  
living. None for me, thank you."

"Well, there is something in that."

"I should say so. Now, just as soon as  
four fellows can sing well enough to avoid  
arrest for disturbing the peace, they get out  
a card, give up all other kinds of industry  
and start out as professionals. The woods  
is full of 'em and many of them aren't fit to  
wheel a lobster barrow. Our old quartette  
could have downed 'em all and we  
never thought of being paid for singing."

"By thunder! you're right, old man."

After some further personal reminiscences these friends separated and I pondered on what they had said. As I well remember the club they had belonged to, one of the best I ever listened to and recalled their many triumphs and pleasures, and the services they gave whenever called upon, I was convinced that the old timer was right, and had more fun than they do now.

"NEWHALL."

## WORTH KNOWING.

In playing the banjo my hands perspire  
and cause the strings to break. Will you  
kindly tell me what will prevent the perspi-  
ration, and if there is anything to prevent  
the strings from breaking?..... Dissolve  
a little borax in water, and wash your  
hands in the solution. Strings of medium  
or light weight, not too tightly strung, are  
not likely to break.—*N. Y. Sunday Times.*  
The above useful bit of information is

given for the benefit of a number of our  
readers who have asked for information on  
this point, but will serve for all others as  
well. The perspiration complained of is  
no doubt, constitutional, as very many people  
are thus constituted, while others do  
not suffer from this inconvenience. The  
application above recommended, will prove  
beneficial in all cases, in which the trouble-  
some moisture appears, while as for the  
strings, we would advise, get good ones  
and take care of them.

## THE MODERN BANJO.

Each year produces more or less new  
musical instruments. Among those born  
in this century, no one is making such  
rapid advances as the banjo, which is now  
played by educated musicians, and can be  
found in drawing-rooms of the best people  
in all parts of America \* \* \* A few  
years ago the banjo was a rude toy, played  
by ear and a discord at every other sound.  
To-day it is finished elegantly, and costs  
from \$10 to \$100 \* \* \* If any one is  
of opinion that the banjo is like the skating  
rink, a passing fancy, he will find himself  
wrong \* \* \* Eventually its claims to  
recognition as a scientific musical instrument,  
will as readily be admitted by an intelligent  
and admiring public as they are  
now by enthusiastic banjo teachers.—  
*Brainard's Musical World.*

## GOOD ADVICE.

In educational matters, one should always  
follow the advice of one of our most  
renowned statesmen and jurists, who was  
most emphatic in his expression upon this  
point. He said, "Never for a single moment  
even, consider the question of cost,  
either in teachers or in text-books. Get the  
best—for even they are none too good."

# GATCOMB'S BANJO & GUITAR GAZETTE,

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

L. B. GATCOMB COMPANY,  
58 Winter St., Boston, Mass.

FRANK N. SCOTT ..... EDITOR.

## SUBSCRIPTION PRICES.

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For Advertising Rates, see Publishers' Department.

## OUR NEW DEPARTURE.

With the present No. of the GAZETTE, we commence our monthly issue in deference to a general wish from our patrons that we should do so. The success of our magazine during the past few months, has been unprecedented and calls for increased efforts on our part, a call we are only too happy to answer. Our patrons will note the addition of an entirely new feature this month, a detailed report of the Copyrights issued under the new International Copyright law, to be continued each month, giving the titles for the preceding month. This matter is provided at great expense, and is alone worth more than ten times the cost of a subscription. Other improvements will be made from time to time, the intention being to place the GAZETTE still higher on the roll and give our patrons the very best there is.

So much is the increased outlay, we have been obliged to raise the subscription price to \$1.00 per year. Of course all subscribers now on our books will receive their magazine until their subscriptions have expired, when we hope they will be only too willing to renew.

Dealers and teachers are earnestly requested to co-operate with us in placing the GAZETTE in the hands of all lovers of music. They will be mutual gainers with us as we never forget our friends.

## NO ROYAL ROAD.

"Zip Coon," Brooklyn, asks a question which is somewhat difficult to reply to in the space which can be afforded in our limited columns. If we understand his question,—and if we do not, he will greatly oblige by correcting us—he wants to know why so much "fingering" work is assigned to the left hand, which, in his idea, has the greater part of the work to do in banjo music. He is correct—in a measure—the fingering or "stopping," is made by the left hand, because nearly all players being right-handed, the instruments must be formed on a right-handed basis. That is, they must be held on the right, the strings so placed as to be reached in the right order by the left hand. If "Zip Coon" will give the matter a little thought, he will see that the labor must be divided between the two hands, that is, one must do the "stopping" and the other the picking—in violins the bowing—and that as now arranged, it is about as it should be, the left hand labor

being almost entirely performed by the fingers alone, while the right wrist and forearm are both used. If it were possible for the hands to change work, the left would prove very awkward in performing some of the work of the right, while the right would no doubt speedily adapt itself to the change.

We regret, for the sake of learners, that it is not possible to do away with many of the difficulties by which they are beset in their endeavors to learn to play, but it is not. There are no royal roads to learning in any study, perfection being secured only through patient application and persistent practice. If "Zip" does not wish to go to a teacher, he should do the next best thing—buy the best "Instructor," and we have it, and study hard. This advice will suit many others, besides this correspondent and we commend it to them.

Our thanks are due "Zip Coon" for his approval and we hope that he, as well as others, will not hesitate to call upon us at all times.

## WEDDING BELLS.

Saturday, Aug. 8th, Mr. L. B. Gatcomb, founder of the Gatcomb Co., was married to Miss R. Annie Nason and immediately departed with his bride for a happy honeymoon in Maine, which was the native state of both. The wedding was strictly private; they being averse to any display, only a few intimate friends being present. Mr. and Mrs. Gatcomb divided their happy vacation between Limerick and Dover, Me., in both which places they have relatives and friends. Sept. 1st they returned home, after a most delightful trip and received their friends at No. 8 Concord Square. "A long and happy life," is the wish of their many friends.

## WHERE THEY SUMMERED OR SIMMERED.

Frank Washburn, Treasurer of the L. B. Gatcomb Co., put in three weeks in Maine and the rest of the time in the office, which he had to himself the greater portion of the summer.

Miss Emma Hutchinson, Cashier of the L. B. Gatcomb Co., passed her vacation in a sick room, but is now at her post again, smiling and indefatigable, as ever.

"The boss" took advantage of the "Summer season" to take unto himself a better half—"a most sagacious choice."

"Ye Editor" enjoyed every moment of the Summer, getting better acquainted with his family, at Idlewild Cottage, West Brownfield, Me. This vacation will be an event to recall in after years.

A. A. Babb, with his wife and bicycle, enlivened the citizens of Dover, Me., and vicinity, with their cheerful society. Mr. Babb explored the entire neighborhood on his "wheel," cleaned out all the trout brooks and killed all the game, except one bear and two cubs who came as near as

Brownville, where they heard of his exploits and escaped to the woods. On his return look out for yarns.

The Boston Ideals, with their wives, put in a most pleasant and profitable season in Vermont.

F. O. Percival stuck faithfully to the post of duty in the orchestra of the Bijou Theatre, varying this labor by occasional turn-outs with Baldwin's Band and looking after his pupils.

Thos. E. Glynn spent the greater portion of the summer "on his native heath," Portland, Me., and enjoyed himself greatly. He returned with the rest of the emigrants, Sept. 1st, and is again hard at work getting out his latest compositions, "Sounds from Africa," and "Queen of the Forest" Schottische.

Geo. H. Coes, the veteran of all minstrels, has accepted a permanent position as stage manager and therefore put in the summer at his home in Cambridgeport, preparing for his departure to the scene of his labors. Mr. Coes needs no special introduction—everybody knows George.

Luis T. Romero put in his time during July at Popham Beach, Me., capturing fish and devouring them, boating, bathing, etc., and gained greatly thereby. During August he shared the sports of the Ideal Club at Lake Memphremagog and had "a great time."

Myra Marie Cobb took but a brief vacation, her many pupils demanding her constant attention. This lady is an indefatigable worker as well as an able teacher.

The Boylston Club put in the summer in hard work rehearsing and otherwise perfecting for the Fall campaign, which they propose to make a busy and profitable one.

## CONDOLENCE.

There is a reaper whose name is Death,  
And with his sickle keen  
He reapeth the bearded grain at a breath  
And the flowers that grow between.

Our earnest sympathy goes out to Mr. Wallace Spooner (printer of the GAZETTE) and his wife, in the most grievous affliction which has come upon them in the death of their most interesting son, Edward W. Spooner. The blow came suddenly and almost overwhelmingly, on June 24th, from cerebral hemorrhage and for a time the parents were overcome with grief. Time is the only healer for wounds like this and as his hand falls gently upon these mourning ones as the years go by, may it rest healingly on their hearts, leaving with them a hope of a joyful reunion where parting cannot come.

## INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT LAW.

With the present number we commence an entirely new and original feature in musical journalism, and we earnestly ask for the enterprise, that attention and consideration so important an undertaking richly

merits. We have made arrangements for a monthly statement of the copyrights that have been issued during the month, thus giving our readers complete access to the official record upon this most interesting subject. Composers, dealers, musicians, students, the public, all are vitally interested in these statistics and all should aid us in producing them. Such information, if obtained direct from the Librarian at Washington, would involve a large outlay in money and time, while we present it in a compact form at a cost for a year of about one-fifth what would be demanded for one single item. If our friends will keep this fact in mind they will realize the importance of this feature and the expediency of assisting in its production.

The present month's report is but a brief one, for several reasons; in the future we will probably present a much longer list.

#### OUR ENLARGEMENT.

We hope at an early day to give our patrons still further evidences of our desire to serve them and we feel assured they will be well pleased with what we propose doing. It is our intention to increase to 16 pages, thus affording more space in which to greet our readers, insuring a larger field of operations and greater scope of expression. Due notice will be given of this enlargement and we trust our friends will aid us in carrying our plans into successful operation. These things cost money and every subscription will aid us in producing them.

The first number of the enlarged issue will contain an account of the organization of the old Harmoneons, the first originals of harmonious minstrelsy in 1843. The article is from the pen of Marshall S. Pike, the veteran of all minstrels, the organizer of the Harmoneons, the best quartette of males ever organized in old time minstrelsy. Mr. Pike who is now in his 73d year and is still hale and hearty, wrote this sketch for the GAZETTE and very interesting it is. Other excellent material will also be provided and the number will be a great one.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Our Mr. Gatcomb had occasion to make a business trip to Washington, recently, and during his stay, was the recipient of the most generous hospitality and kindly attentions of Mr. E. G. Harbaugh and his excellent wife. We assure these good friends that the latch string will always be hung out for them and our earnest wish is that they may frequently pull on it.

G. W. Stratton of Lowell, dropped in on the GAZETTE, a short time ago and was welcome. He gave an encouraging report of the business condition in the "City of Spindles" and was off again almost before we had ended our greetings. Mr. Stratton is at once a busy man and a business man, thoroughly acquainted with his own peculiar line of trade.



[This column is designed for a sort of reception room where we may meet our friends in an informal manner and exchange greetings. If these receptions are not generally interesting, the fault will rest with them and not with us, as if they will keep us informed of what is transpiring that is of interest, we will be only too well pleased to give it a place. This invitation is a general one, and we hope all will avail themselves of it.]

W. P. Chambers, Los Angeles, Cal. writes: "I more than regret that I was unable to meet the boys when they were here, but will cancel all engagements to meet them should they ever favor our city again."

Miss Annie M. Lyon, Delavan, O., is organizing a banjo and guitar club in connection with her classes. She will have a good one, as she has a fine class, and knows exactly how to develop for club purposes. We shall be pleased at all times to record their success.

Chase & Smith are comfortably settled in their elegant new quarters, 331 South Salina St., Syracuse, N. Y., and their enterprise is duly appreciated by their patrons. They occupy the entire building; one of the features of this establishment is a spacious studio and music hall, with a seating capacity of 300. Their stock is very large, and well selected from the best manufacturers. Mr. F. K. Smith recently of Los Angeles, Cal., is now a partner with Mr. Chase. Success to the new firm.

W. E. Pierpont, Detroit, Mich., writes: "I have been here about three weeks and am in hopes to do a fine business as soon as the season opens." We sincerely trust that his hopes may be more than realized.

The case "Twigg vs Freund" for grand larceny, was "dismissed" for want of any evidence whatever to sustain it" by Judge Meade, without the hearing of a single witness or any plea from Mr. Freund. This was the only legitimate end to have been expected and is no surprise to the many friends of Mr. Freund who saw in it a cowardly attack from skulking foes who used Mr. Twigg as their weapon. And now he probably wishes he hadn't let them.

The magnificent organ built by Geo. L. Hutchings of Boston, for the First Congregational Church, San Francisco, Cal., is considered a triumph in organ building. Its fame is extended along the Pacific slope the local musicians declaring it "unequalled in excellence." Mr. Hutchings may well be proud of this new achievement in his art.

Frank W. Brady, late of Rockland, Mass., has removed to Chicago, Ill., and now hangs out his shingle at 64 Adams St. What we have lost the "Windy City" gains, as Mr. Brady is both an able and industrious teacher.

We have received sample numbers of "The Arcadian," a smart little sheet published by J. C. Richards & Co., Cleveland, O. We trust our new contemporary has come to stay.

Fred A. Mead, director of "The Lost Chord" Banjo Club of Gloversville, N. Y. sends us frequent orders for music, his selections giving proof of the excellence of his judgment. We have no doubt that the Club under his charge will give equally good evidence of his abilities as a Director.

B. F. Williams, Wilkesbarre, Penn., has resumed his class for the season of 1891-92 and is very busy as all good teachers usually are. Mr. Williams is among our most valued patrons and we will always be pleased to chronicle his success.

E. M. Hall has accepted an engagement for a long season in the West and Northwest, with Goodyear, Elitch & Schilling's Minstrels.

The Clover Banjo Club of Philadelphia, which was so successful last season has resumed rehearsals and will be ready for business shortly. The members are Walter A. Munns, Geo. Holloway, Richard Weaver, J. Beans.

#### PERSONAL.

Otto H. Albright of Philadelphia, with his excellent Symphony Club, played a most successful engagement in the Bijou Theatre, Boston, during the week of Aug. 17th. The fact that Mr. Keith, who selects only the best, gave them a place in his programme, is ample proof of their excellence.

Marcus M. Henry, Impressario, sends us a list of the gilt-edged attractions under his charge, together with some excellent press notices and other items concerning them. Mr. Henry, whose headquarters is at the house of W. Gray & Co., San Francisco, is at once a busy, a competent and hence a most successful man, his experience as a manager having been such as to ensure satisfactory results. The GAZETTE will always be well pleased to hear from Mr. Henry and the several enterprises under his charge.

W. F. Allen, of Nashville, Tenn., called on the GAZETTE and was welcome. Mr. Allen has been spending the summer in Maine, which, by the way, seems to have caught a great number of musicians this year. He came as the representative of the well-known firm of R. Dorman & Co., and speaks most hopefully of trade matters in that section. Mr. Allen is a highly successful teacher and enjoys the confidence of the community in which he resides.

Miss Washington, of New Orleans, La., is studying music with her aunt, Mrs. E. G. Harbaugh, Washington, D. C. She has an excellent teacher.

E. M. Hall is favoring us with his latest and best compositions and is improving with each new work. We have just published his "Twin City Polka" and have in press the "Blue Ribbon March," two pieces that are hard to beat, like Mr. Hall himself. Mr. Hall is a worker and we will soon have the pleasure of announcing several other compositions from his able hand.

Our genial friend, L. B. Gatcomb, took one of his flying trips from "the hub" last week, and flashed upon us in his usual comet-like individuality. He deposited his six feet of majestic personality in one of the handsome opera chairs at the Broadway Theatre and noted the banjos which are so skillfully played by the chorus under the direction of Mr. Grant Brower. Mr. Gatcomb would like to take "Wang" back with him, but will postpone the operation till a later occasion. In the meantime De Wolf Hopper and his opera continues to h'operate as usual.—*New York Sunday Times*.

H. J. Vottler, Cleveland, O., dropped into the GAZETTE office a few days ago and brightened our sanctum for a very short time, and took his homeward flight. It is no wonder the West is so flourishing when it has such enterprising business men. The East must look to itself.

Marshall S. Pike, the veteran minstrel, is at his old home in Fayville, Mass., where he passes the time in peaceful meditation and otherwise—principally otherwise. He is past 73 years of age, and though not in perfect health is as jolly as ever. His autobiography is almost completed and when ready for distribution will be a most interesting narration of the old time concert period. Long life to our old friend and comrade.

Ike Browne has been and went and gone and "had his picter took," and it is a fine one. We return our hearty thanks for a fine cabinet photograph of our talented friend and assure him it will find a place among our treasures.

G. H. West died at his home in Beverly, Mass., July 31st. He was an enthusiastic musician and banjo player as is also his wife. He had a fine assortment of instruments of the Gatcomb make and was never weary in making them sound their own praises. So they go—one after another and we see them no more.

Mrs. A. A. Babb, who has been passing the summer with her husband in Dover, Me., is a graceful bicyclist and delights in that recreation. During her vacation she created quite a sensation by her graceful riding, becoming "the cynosure of many admiring eyes," so says the Bangor *News*.

Mr. C. D. Smith, of Chicago, is a musician, director, composer and teacher of merit and is certain to achieve great success in each line of the musical profession. He has a large class of pupils, and has won great triumphs with the Banjo Club he has organized, and many of his compositions are widely known and appreciated. We are well pleased to add our tribute to his ability.

Ike Browne is among the coming men, and he will not be long in getting there. Among his latest and best are several which are sure to become widely popular, "When do we get to the Tunnel," humorous, and "The Sun will shine again." Ike has new and original ideas and his compositions are bound to be popular.

E. G. Harbaugh and wife, passed through this city en route for home, a few days since, leaving their greetings as they flitted away towards the Sunny South. They will open their Study at once—in fact, they have already done so, doubtless, starting in with a big class and most excellent prospects. Merit such as theirs, joined with courtesy and enterprise, is always bound to prosper.

#### CONCERTS.

Mrs. Churchill, Lebanon, N. H., took part in a Concert at that place recently, contributing a mandolin solo, which, according to the Granite State Free Press, was one of the features of the evening, eliciting most generous applause and a recall. She also assisted in a Six Hand Piano Solo which was enthusiastically received. This lady is a most excellent musician and is certain to secure due recognition whenever she appears.

Miss Florence Hamblet, banjo soloist, played at a concert in Malden recently, to a large and appreciative audience. Miss Hamblet was a general favorite during the evening and was presented with many choice flowers, besides having several encores.

The Trovatore Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Club of Cortland, N. Y., gave a fine concert in the Opera House, July 10th, and made an immense success. The Club contributed Lansing's "Darkies' Patrol" and "Eclat Galop," Harris' "Ideal March" and Smith's "Juno March," all of which received great applause. They were assisted by some excellent talent and every number on their programme was a hit.

The Eureka Banjo and Guitar Club, Chicago, Ill., under the able direction of Mr. C. D. Smith, assisted at a concert of the Tenth Presbyterian Church of that city Thursday, June 11th. The Club contributed two numbers which were enthusiastically received. The programme was a good one and the concert was a decided success in every respect.

"Los Bandurrias" of San Francisco, are still giving their excellent concerts and reaping rich returns in reputation and wealth. This is the only organization of the kind in this country and it is at once a novelty and a most desirable element in musical cultivation.

The "Garden District" Banjo Club, New Orleans, La., recently gave one of their excellent entertainments, under the auspices of the "Ladies Auxilliary of the Y. M. C. A.," at their rooms on Camp St. The programme was an excellent one comprising selections by the Club, which received well-merited applause. The Director, Edward J. Henderson, writes us most enthusiastically of their prospects. They were assisted on the occasion above noted, by a fine array of home talent and the affair was a success.

Our friend, E. H. Bailey, one of Boston's excellent musicians, has been combining

business with pleasure during the Summer months. Assisted by his talented wife he has given several recitals at various points, by invitation of many friends in the various places, and has met with well deserved success. Mr. and Mrs. Bailey are most agreeable companions and are as talented as they are agreeable.

#### OUR AIM.

We trust our friends will bear with us if the present number should assume somewhat too much of the personal form, the "ego" being really prominent. But there are times when one must be self-asserting and this appears, to us at least, to be one of those times. Should the personal pronoun appear more frequent than is consistent with genuine modesty, we trust our good friends, who have borne with us so patiently in the past, will kindly exercise charity and we promise not to offend in this respect again.

As already announced and as inaugurated in the present issue, we purpose giving each month, compiled and tabulated in compact form, the titles which have been copyrighted in the Office of the Librarian at Washington for the month preceding. The paramount importance and inestimable benefit of this, needs no enlarged setting forth to any person who is at all conversant with the workings of the copyright law. Music dealers and musicians more particularly, are interested in this, as through the means of these reports they may always learn what titles have been used, thus insuring against infringement of copyright and preventing duplication of titles. This is of such great benefit as to commend itself to all and all are interested in this important question.

As regards our enlargement to 16 pages, already announced, we will make every effort to perfect the plans whereby this is to be secured. All such matters demand time and labor, as well as capital, and cannot be accomplished without delay. Our intention now is, to make this change in the October number, and if it can be arranged by that time, we will certainly do so. But should it not be possible, we cast ourselves upon the indulgence of our friends.

When this enlargement is perfected, we propose devoting space to correspondence upon subjects of general interest and trust our friends everywhere will aid us in making the department interesting. We will endeavor to reply to all questions which may be propounded, to the best of our abilities, and while assuming no oracular powers, we assure our contributors that they may rely upon our zeal in their behalf, if we do not entirely come up to their standard of accuracy in reply. All questions that are asked *in good faith*, will be welcome, and all items of general interest will be cheerfully accorded space.

Again we ask our friends to help us, by increasing our subscription lists, and also by their kindly contributions of interesting reading matter, thus assisting us and benefitting themselves.

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On yearly advertisements we make 20 per cent. discount from the above rates.

Advertisements under the heading "Prominent Teachers of Banjo, Guitar and Mandolin," two lines, \$1.00 per year; additional lines 50 cents per line.

Advertisements under the heading "New Music," one insertion, 4 lines, 50 cents; additional lines 12 1/2 cents per line.

For subscription rates, see Editorial Page 2.

Press of WALLACE SPOONER, 17 Province St., Boston.

### OUR NEW MANUFACTORY.

Having long since outgrown the quarters we have been occupying at 30 Hanover St. we have, at last, been able to secure more commodious rooms at No. 15 Chardon St., and our force, materially augmented to meet the constantly increasing demands, is comfortably installed therein. We are happy to inform our patrons that hereafter we hope to be better able than ever to answer their orders and feel assured that, with our enlarged facilities we will be able to do so at all times. We desire to return our warmest thanks to all friends for their many favors in the past and assure them of our renewed intention to deserve them in the future.

At last one of the greatest inconveniences in banjo making has been overcome and players on that instrument may congratulate themselves. The tension upon all stringed instruments, pulling towards the centre, invariably leads to a loosening of the points where the strings are fastened. In the banjo this produces a loosening of the arm from the head, thus gradually leading to a raising of the strings from the neck. To remedy this the banjo makers have been compelled to use a large iron clamp, bulky, clumsy, and heavy, a weight to the player and a detriment to the tone. Relief has come through the ingenuity of a banjo expert, Mr. Bert E. Shattuck, who has patented an ingenious little device which weighs but an ounce and a half and is concealed in the neck of the banjo. The tension is graduated by a little screw which is easily operated and acts readily and efficiently. This devise is patented and used only on the Gatcomb banjos, being the sole property of the Gatcomb Company.

We call attention to our list of Guitar Music, particularly the five popular songs just arranged for us by Mr. Frank N. Scott. This list embraces a judicious selection of several of the most popular hits of the day, and commend themselves. The arrangements are at once simple and pleasing, care having been taken to place their execution within the ability of ordinary players. No better list of songs can be found anywhere.

Every one who attempts the guitar, sooner or later, makes a break at "The Spanish Fandango," and not to know how to play this old stand-by, is a confession that one's education has been neglected. As the old-time versions had put on an exceedingly venerable, not to say, ancient, appearance, Mr. Scott has added two new and brilliant variations which have really added new life to it, and, given the old-time favorite a fresh lease of popularity. Guitarists should send for this and give themselves a new pleasure.

Now we have just published Lansing's greatest effort "The Darkies' Dream," for song and chorus arranged with piano accompaniment, and soon everybody will be singing it. The words were written and adapted to the original melody, by Miss L. Isabella Giles and very excellent they are. Unless all signs fail, a condition we do not anticipate, this song is destined to be a great hit and be heard everywhere. Nothing which has appeared for some time possesses more of the "come-to-stay" element and we anticipate a large and legitimate demand for it.

### "GATCOMBS."

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VOICE.

1. We from child-hood play'd to - geth - er, My dear comrade Jack, and I; We would fight each oth - er's  
 2. When just bud - ding in - to man - hood, I yearn'd for a sol - dier's life; Night and day I dreamed of  
 3. I en - list - ed, Jack went with me, And ups and downs we shar'd; For a time our lives were

bat - tles, To each oth - er's aid we'd fly, And in boy - ish scrapes and troubles, You would find us  
 glo - ry, Long-ing for the bat - tle's strife, I said "Jack, I'll be a sol - dier, 'Neath the Red, the  
 peace-ful, But at length war was de - clared, For our Flag had been in - sult - ed, We were or - dered

ev - 'ry - where, Where one went the oth - er follow'd, Naught could part us. for we were:—  
 White and Blue, Good bye, Jack!" Said he "No! nev - er! If you go, then I'll go too!" We were  
 to the front, And the reg - ment we be - longed to, Had to bear the bat - tle's brunt. We were

REFRAIN. Waltz time.

3  
 4

Com - rades, com - rades, ev - er since we were boys;..... Shar - ing each

oth - er's sor - rows, Shar - ing each oth - er's joys,..... Com - rades when

man - hood was dawn - ing, Faith - ful what - e'er might be - tide,..... When dan - ger  
Barre 1st fret.

threat - ened, my trust - y old com - rade was there by my side.....

## Last Verse.

In the night the sav - age foe - men, Crept a - round us as we lay, Quick, "to

arms" we leap'd, and faced them, Back to back we stood at bay, As I fought, a sav - age

at me, Aimed his spear like lightning's dart, But my comrade sprang to save me, And received it in his heart.  
Barre 4th Pos.

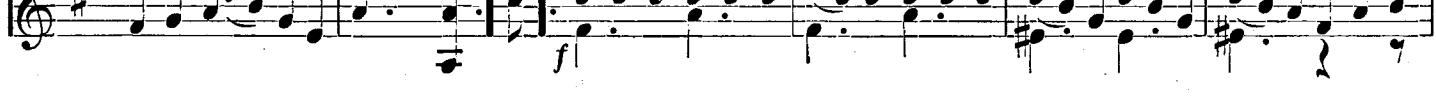
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*Lively.*

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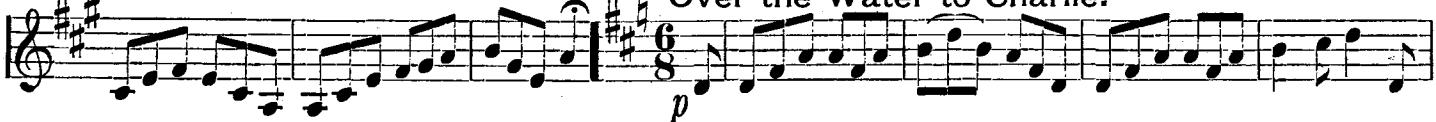
2d.



Barney, be aisy.



Over the Water to Charlie.



## The Powers of Whiskey.



## The Girl I left behind me.

*Moderato.*

## St. Patrick's Day.

*Lively.*

An Irish Stew. — 2.

*D.C. al Fine.*

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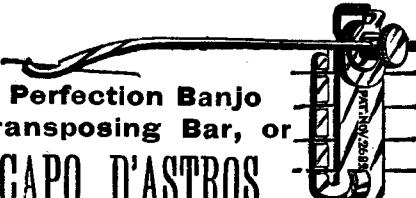
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